

From: Michael Chapek
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Posted To: spywareworkshop2004
Conversation: Spyware Workshop - Comment, P044509
Subject: Spyware Workshop - Comment, P044509

Hello,

To whom it may concern. Thank you for an opportunity to speak my mind on this subject. It's really a crime to allow advertisers, manufacturers, and software companies to place programs on our computers to track our Internet or computer use so that they can shove targeted unwanted advertising down our throats. I didn't buy a computer to be spied on and to provide an advertisement platform for every scam artist to take advantage of. The collected productivity and efficiency of our country is lowered because of spyware using up bandwidth, popups that conveniently appear with close buttons off screen, programs that serve us ads that we have to wait till they are done before we can get rid of them, multiple popups that appear as fast as we can click them off and advertisers programs that are deposited on our computers to show when we are offline. I think it's a crime that I have to spend \$30 - \$150 (often to the same companies that send me junk) to slow the amount of garbage that overtakes my computer. I also think it should be a Federal crime to send any emails that don't have a legitimate return address of who's responsible for sending it, and a one click option for not getting anymore email from them (advertisers not private emails) without having to resend my email address to them and wait 10-15 days for processing. They get my email address from my one click on their link from an email and then send me junk immediately with one click, how come I have to fill out my email address and life history to get them to stop? We need advertiser accountability laws similar to radio and TV to prevent untrue exaggerated advertiser claims.

This is a crime against businesses that get more than 1/2 of their in boxes filled up with ads for viagra, to get dates, or to add inches to their members. The time wasted deleting spam and protecting our networks from spyware slowing down our mission critical computer systems. The amount of time used up in just these two examples is unbelievable.

The real crime is towards those of us that can not afford, or live in areas that don't have broadband as we lose the most time with things that use up our small, slow dialup band width on our older smaller slower computers.

Thank you,
Michael D. Chapek